



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Keating et al.

Serial No: 09/554,996

Filed: May 24, 2000

For: Elastin-Based Compositions

Attorney Docket No. HYDR-P01-002

Art Unit: 1632

Examiner: S. Chen

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Declaration Under 35 U.S.C. §1.132 of Dean Li

Sir:

I, Dean Li of Utah, hereby declare as follows:

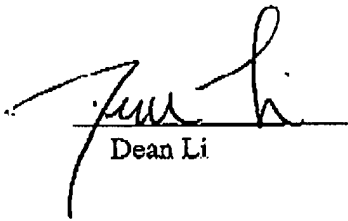
1. I am an employee of the University of Utah. The University of Utah has previously assigned all rights in this application to the University of Utah Research Foundation, the assignee of record.

2. Experiments were performed in collaboration with me, the results of which are depicted in Exhibits 1-2, which demonstrate that an elastin peptide having an amino acid sequence identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 (VGVAPG) influenced smooth muscle cell migration and behavior in a manner similar to that of recombinant tropoelastin. The effects of exogenously supplied recombinant tropoelastin, an elastin peptide identical to SEQ ID NO: 1, or a negative control random peptide were evaluated by assessing changes in actin stress fiber formation and focal adhesions, or by measuring migration in a classical Bowden chamber assay.

Exhibit 1 shows that an elastin peptide identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 induced actin polymerization in vascular smooth muscle cells derived from elastin +/- mice in a dose dependent, temporally sensitive manner. Exhibit 2 shows that an elastin peptide identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 promoted vascular smooth muscle cell chemotaxis. A modified Boyden-chamber assay was used to determine the total number of migrated cells in 15 randomly selected high-power microscopic fields (HPF). 20 nM of an elastin peptide identical to SEQ ID NO: 1 regulated vascular smooth muscle cell migration in a manner comparable to both recombinant tropoelastin and PDGF.

3. The above experiments were performed in accord with the teachings of the abovementioned patent application.

4. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements are made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title XVIII of the United States Code and that willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of this Application for Patent or any patent issuing thereon.


Dean Li

Dated: 6/27/2003

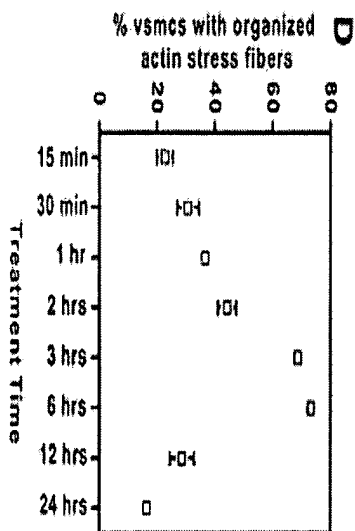
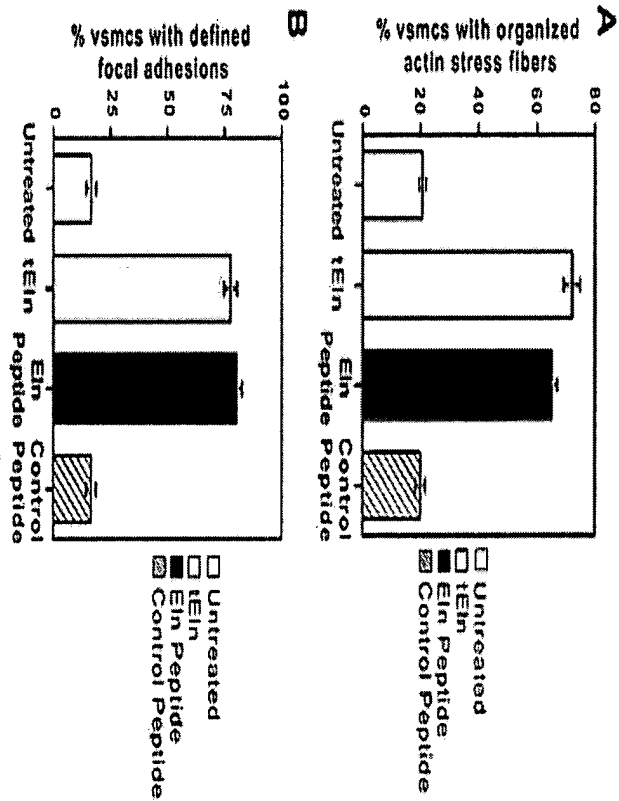
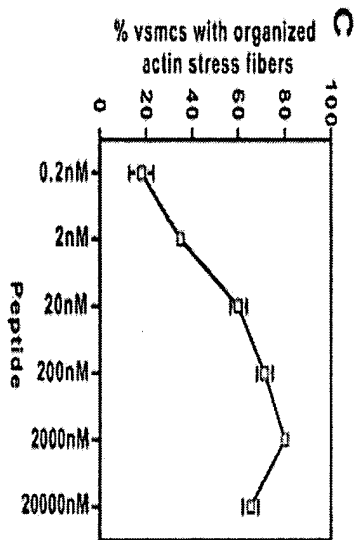


Exhibit 1

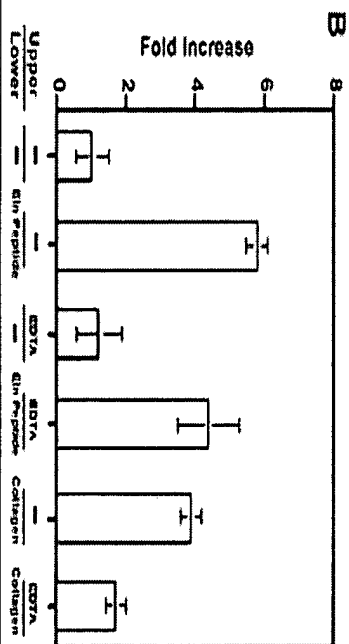
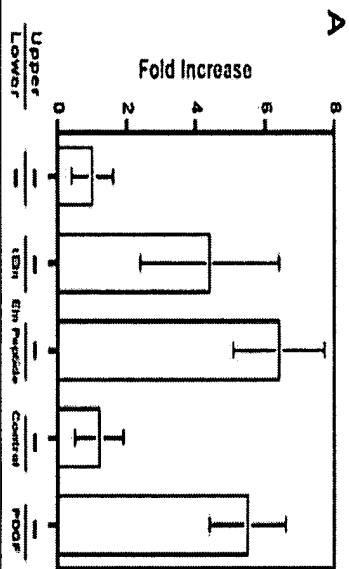


Exhibit 2